

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A method for soft/softer handover in a wireless hybrid time division / code division multiple access communication system, the method comprising for a wireless transmit/receive unit (WTRU):

determining currently used uplink and downlink timeslots of the WTRU in a current cell/sector;

using the determined currently used uplink and downlink timeslots to identify different uplink and downlink timeslots in a handover cell/sector;

assigning uplink and downlink timeslots to the WTRU for a handover cell/sector, the assigned handover cell/sector uplink and downlink timeslots are different timeslots than the currently used current cell/sector uplink and downlink timeslots, wherein a timeslot that has an opposite transmission direction in the current cell/sector than a transmission direction in the handover cell/sector is not assigned;

synchronizing the handover cell/sector and current cell/sector so their time slots are time synchronized; and

after initiating soft handover, communicating same uplink and downlink data with the current cell/sector using the currently used uplink and downlink timeslots and with the handover cell/sector using the assigned handover cell/sector uplink and downlink timeslots.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the uplink and downlink data is decoded using a joint detector configured to only process signals sent by a same scrambling code.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising one set of the same uplink data having a highest received signal quality received by each cell/sector being selected as decoded uplink data.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising combining both sets of the same downlink data as decoded downlink data.

6. (Currently amended) A wireless transmit/receive unit (WTRU) capable of performing soft/softer handover in a wireless hybrid time division duplex/code division multiple access communication system, the WTRU comprising:

    a transmitter using a current uplink timeslot to transmit uplink data to a first cell/sector;

    a receiver using a current downlink timeslot to receive downlink data from the first cell/sector;

    a code assignment receiver for receiving a handover uplink and downlink timeslot assignment, the handover uplink and downlink timeslot assignment indicating timeslots other than the current uplink and downlink timeslot, wherein a timeslot that has an opposite transmission direction in the current cell/sector than a transmission direction in the handover cell/sector is not assigned; [[and]]

    the transmitter for transmitting the uplink data to the first cell/sector using the current uplink timeslot and to a handover cell/sector using the assigned handover uplink timeslot;

    the receiver for receiving the downlink data from the first cell/sector using the current downlink timeslot and from the handover cell/sector using the assigned handover downlink timeslot; and

    a synchronizer for synchronizing the handover cell/sector and current cell/sector so their time slots are time synchronized.

7. (Original) The WTRU of claim 6 further comprising a joint detector for detecting the received downlink data for the first cell/sector and the handover cell/sector.

8. (Original) The WTRU of claim 7 further comprising a buffer for storing the detected received downlink data for the first and handover cell/sector.

9. (Original) The WTRU of claim 8 further comprising a combiner for combining the detected received downlink data of the first and handover cell/sector.

10. (Original) The WTRU of claim 6 wherein a transmission power level of the first cell/sector transmitted uplink data is based on a received signal power level (RSCP) of a channel transmitted by the first cell/sector and a transmission power level of the handover cell/sector transmitted uplink data is based on a RSCP of a channel transmitted by the second cell/sector.

11. (Original) The WTRU of claim 10 wherein the RSCP of the first and handover cell/sector channels are determined in a same radio frame.

12. (Original) The WTRU of claim 10 wherein the RSCP of the first and handover cell/sector channels are not determined in a same radio frame.

13. (Original) The WTRU of claim 6 wherein a transmission power level of the first cell/sector uplink communication is based on a pathloss of a channel transmitted by the first cell/sector and a transmission power level of the handover cell/sector is based on an offset of the first cell/sector pathloss.

14. (Original) The WTRU of claim 13 where the offset is updated periodically.

15. – 25. (Canceled)